

The Elba Clipper

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THURSDAY, MAY 3, 1989

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New Brockton council members Bud Goodson (left) and Ralph Medley (right) review bills for payment prior to Monday night's meeting. The council heard requests for grass cutting as well as a leash law at the meeting.

New Brockton woman asks city council to adopt & enforce leash law

The normally lively New Brockton City Council meeting only had one incident of flared tempers Monday evening as the town fathers met in regular session before a large, but orderly group of interested citizens.

The only sign of problems surfaced when former police chief Gordon Lueck discussed a city street right-of-way grown up with tall grass and weeds. Lueck noted he could only recall the area being bush-hogged once last year. Councilman Ralph Medley challenged this, noting he had personally cut the right-of-way numerous times

last year. Medley added he has officially volunteered to take this area as his "adopt-a-mile" and assured those present it would be kept presentable.

The area being discussed is the road south past the school that becomes County Road 55 at the city limits.

The council had scheduled a meeting with the city auditors but this was postponed until Tuesday evening. The reason announced to the public was that Tuesday was the scheduled day for the quarterly audit and it would save the town the cost of a second trip.

The need to cut weeds was also brought to the council by Mrs. Lou Agner who noted her property had been cleaned but lots on either side were still unmowed. She was told by Mayor Jim Driskell the property owners would be notified and given the allotted time and if nothing was done, the city would get the work done and bill them for the cost.

Mrs. Agner also suggested the passing of a leash law in New Brockton. She talked about a dog fight on her street and the problems of people out walking. She was told the city would check with the city attorney and if an existing law would control this problem it would be enforced.

Medley noted that the city dog catcher lives outside the city limits and this might give the city a place to build some low cost pens to hold impounded animals. Medley suggested the police chief and dog catcher look into this proposal. The council members agreed.

Driskell told council members of a letter from a cable TV firm asking if the community was interested in a second cable company in town. After some discussion the mayor said that if there were no objections he would notify the company that New Brockton was not interested at this time.

A public hearing is scheduled for 6 p.m. on May 4 and May 11 to discuss a proposed sewer project.

Bills totaling \$2340.67 were approved for payment. Adjustments in the local business license schedule were again on the minds of council members and the city clerk Cathy Tucker.

Councilman Bud Goodson noted he had spent an evening looking over the present plan. He wanted the council members to sit down and go over the schedule and make changes before Tucker types up the new schedule.

Tucker also noted a page concerning real estate brokers was missing and she didn't know what to charge these firms.

Mayor Driskell urged the council to look at the real estate schedule and make it acceptable. He urged the council "don't set the rates so high that people wouldn't come into town and sell our homes."

Councilman Britt Lee again questioned the March payroll, noting it lacked \$3.50 being \$5,000 and was over budget. "We are over-

spending and I would like to know why."

Driskell suggested he come into city hall and check with the city clerk who would show any council member the payroll and he could see for himself.

Councilman Charles Cole reported on the progress of the youth recreation program which has 114 youths participating. He also thanked businesses and individuals who donated funds to get the program started.

A letter of appreciation was approved to the people who made the Miss and Little Miss New Brockton events a success.

"Don't set the rates so high that people wouldn't come into town and sell our homes", Driskell told the council members.

Medley discussed several drainage problems including one on the street next to the school bus shop. He said the school board was willing to help out with the costs.

The city engineer will be asked to prepare a cost estimate on the repairs.

Street lights were discussed but didn't become an item of debate as it had in past meetings. The council passed a resolution requesting a street light at the end of King Street, at the housing project.

The council members began discussing other places to install lights and it was suggested that before any decisions were made, Alabama Power Co. officials tour the city with council members and make recommendations.

Medley told council members he had been operating a mower and back hoe during the summer but would be unable to do it this year. No decision was made on contracting out the work or hiring someone to operate the equipment by the hour. Mayor Driskell is to check with the county engineer about the county spraying the areas with weed killer.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, May 16th instead of the normal Monday meeting. This will allow council members to attend another meeting.

Meeting set for 1:00 today in Arifton on Pea River project

The Choctawhatchee Pea River Improvement Association announced last week that it had received good news concerning the proposed dam and lake to be constructed near Arifton.

According to Max Hughes, chairman of the association, the Corps of Engineers contacted association members last week and reported that it had given favorable reports on two facets of the project.

The Corps reportedly informed the officials the outlook was good

for both irrigation and recreation and also stated it would conduct further studies.

Funding for the project, which would include building a dam on the Pea River, is being sought by Cong. Bill Dickinson and Sen. Howell Heflin, along with the South Alabama Electric Cooperative and Pea River Electric Cooperative.

The association will meet again today (May 4) in Arifton at 2:00 to discuss the project.

County jail escapee calls it quits after hours of freedom

A 19-year-old inmate at the Coffee County Jail, in Elba, who escaped early Friday morning after vaulting over a 12-foot fence surrounding the facility, apparently decided after 24 hours on the run that

he had enjoyed all the freedom he could stand as he made his whereabouts known in the pre-dawn hours Saturday morning and turned himself in to Elba police authorities.

According to authorities at the

Elba Police Department, Troy Lamont Brooks, of Enterprise, escaped Friday morning, April 28, at approximately 6:20 a.m. while in the exercise yard with other inmates.

He was spotted twice during the

day Friday, but eluded officers and bloodhounds and was still at large Friday night.

Residents on Buford Street, in Elba, awoke to yells of someone from a nearby roof top yelling for help at approximately 2:00 a.m. Saturday morning.

The residents called police, who reported that the escapee walked up to the patrol car and surrendered without resistance.

Brooks, originally charged with 10 counts of third-degree burglary, one count of third-degree escape and two counts of second-degree theft, now also faces an additional charge of second-degree escape.

Band Day set for Saturday in Elba

"Band Day 89" at Elba High School will be held May 13, 10 a.m. until 4:30 p.m., on the square.

Scheduled activities include performances by all Elba bands, local church choirs, the first annual Elba Alumni Band, TSU Jazz Ensemble; as well as carnival games, local ce-

lebrity "Bail Jail," and for the grand finale "Foggy Bottom Bingo," minimum grand prize \$500.

Concessions will be available all day, as well as continuous live radio coverage on WELB.

Everyone is invited to come out and enjoy a day of fun with the Elba bands!

New Brockton resident to stand trial on election fraud charge

A New Brockton resident charged with election fraud in connection with the city's run-off election for mayor will stand trial in Coffee County.

Lena Mae Carroll, a resident of New Brockton charged with election fraud, had filed a motion to have the charges dropped; however, it was announced last week that the Alabama Court of Criminal Appeals had denied the motion, setting the stage for the trial.

Garth Lindsey, the attorney for Mrs. Carroll, contended in the motion for dismissal that since his client honored a subpoena issued by the Coffee County District Attorney's office and answered all questions regarding the September 1988 run-off election, she should be granted immunity from prosecution.

In making its announcement, the Appeals Court also upheld an earlier decision by Circuit Judge Gary McAliley in which McAliley refused to step down from the bench. Lindsey had requested McAliley step down because the judge had stepped down in a similar case, but McAliley refused, stating the earlier case involved two men seeking the office and he stepped down because

both men had campaigned for him in his race for the judgeship.

Parental Awareness Program to be sponsored by Elba Police Department

The Elba Police Department has announced plans to sponsor a "Parent Awareness Drug Program" that will be available to all church and civic organizations in the city.

This program, which was made possible through the donations of area merchants and citizens, is designed to help break down the barriers that sometimes exist between the parents and their children," said Elba Police Chief Freddie Hanchey. "Many times parents who think they may have problems with their children involving drugs feel they have no where to turn. That is not true! The Elba Police Department is here to help and this program is of community-wide importance."

The program, which Chief Hanchey stated was available to any church, civic group, citizens group or interested organization, involves

a member of the police department speaking to the group and passing out informative booklets that are designed to help the parents better recognize what to look for in their children when drug use is suspected.

"The Elba Police Department is here to help...." Chief Freddie Hanchey

"We will go to the organization or group and familiarize the members with the drugs and the effects of the drugs," added Hanchey. "The booklets that will be given out will include pictures of the various types of drugs as well as the dangers that exist in the presence of non-prescription household drugs and the new designer drugs. People don't realize that in many cases drug use starts at home with prescription and non-prescription drugs that are found in the medicine cabinet. This very serious problem will be discussed."

At the meetings, the police officers will also display a sample of various common drugs and will ac-

tually burn a pill that gives off a smell identical to marijuana.

This program is needed in every community," stated Chief Hanchey, "and we feel fortunate to be able to offer it here in Elba. Parents need to remember that drug usage is often hard to detect and realize that alcohol is a drug. No one ever wants to admit that there is a drug problem in a family or community, but it does exist and we hope this program will make everyone more aware of the problem and the cure."

The program will be available in late May and to schedule the program one should call the Elba Police Department at 897-2555.

Elba youth injured in bicycle-car accident

A 9-year-old Elba youth was transferred to a Dothan hospital last week with injuries suffered in a traffic accident involving a bicycle and a car.

According to Elba Police Department officials, Scott Mitchell, age 9, of Kendrick Apartments, was riding his bicycle along Claxton Ave-

nue on Wednesday, April 26, when he reportedly rode into the path of a car driven by Viola Allred, of Highland Drive, Elba.

Mitchell was taken to the Elba General Hospital and later transferred to a Dothan hospital with lacerations to the head and abrasions to the legs.

Bill Anderson to appear free at festival

Bill Anderson, country music artist, will appear at the Coffee County Chicken Festival Saturday

night, May 6, for one show at 8 p.m.

Admission will be free.



PICTURED ARE THE ELBA ELEMENTARY KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS who will present the program at the Elba PTO meeting Monday evening, May 8, at seven o'clock in the elementary cafeteria. Title of the program will be "The Dinosaurs' Family Reunion."

DATE INCORRECT

BRAINSTORMS

With Ferrin Cox

Apparently the head lobbyist for the Alabama Education Association is serious about running for governor in 1990. Paul Hubbard's name has been bandied around for several months and now we understand he is telling close associates he will run because he can't work four more years with Guy Hunt. Of course Hubbard is a Democrat and will give someone a good race. Already some trial balloons are being floated to form a basis for his platform and you can bet that fair taxation will be his rallying point. Heck we all want fair taxes . . . those on the other person.

Sheriff Brice Paul wants the county commission to build a new jail and not add on to the present facility. He has even suggested an additional tax to pay for the new construction. Maybe Brice didn't hear the loud shots fired at the commissioners last month when they proposed an additional tax to repair the county roads. The folks of Coffee County don't want any more taxes. We suggest Sheriff Paul work with the commission to cut operating expenses, build within the present income and stop publicly announcing to the world the terrible conditions of the present jail.

Two more prisoners escaped from the county jail last weekend. We are amazed at the athletic abilities of these inmates. We had one citizen suggest we get two more and make a basketball team. Actually with three men who can jump a 12-foot-high fence, we don't need much more. . . just a couple of us bodies would make out the five team members and the three high jumpers could do all the winning of the game!

The bass club folks are working hard on their plans for another of those free river trips down Pea River. We talked with them a couple of weeks ago and right now they are trying to line up enough pontoon boats to handle the crowds expected to show up for the event. They get some donations, sell some tee shirts and even make a little money which they promptly put aside to help "save Pea River". They need our support on all this work.

Former pastor Ed Sells conducted the spring revival at Elba United Methodist Church. We were looking forward to again hearing him preach and he didn't disappoint us at all. The Sells family has always been one of our favorites and we welcome them to Elba anytime.

We ain't doing real well with our spring fishing. There are reports of folks catching a lot of bream on the beds, but we aren't having that luck. True we are catching fish and some that appear to be trying to bed, but we just ain't finding a lot of hot spots. We are now looking forward to the full moon in May as "the time to go".

Lucille Ball is dead. We knew she was having health problems but it was a minor shock to hear she had died. This charming lady has been a part of the entertainment world for as long as my simple mind can remember and we already miss her.

We are getting some good rains this spring. There has been plenty of water in our area all spring and it has mostly been those slow soaking rains that do great for the earth. We need to remember the times when we really needed rain and it wasn't forthcoming. We should take a few minutes to say a prayer of thanks to The One responsible for sending the water down.

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The Elba Clipper

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SECOND CLASS POSTAGE PAID AT ELBA, ALABAMA 36323

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
Coffee County & Surrounding Counties - \$11.00 Per Year
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Letters To The Editor

Dear Editor:

I would like to pay tribute to some fellow educators, most of whom I do not even know. They are the faculty of Zion Chapel High School in Coffee County.

My nephew, Justin Lowry, is enrolled in kindergarten there. In November, it was discovered that he has a malignant brain tumor that has impaired the vision in his left eye and the use of his left arm and leg. After six weeks of radiation treatments, he was unable to participate in a regular school day, so he returned to the day care facility where he had stayed before he started school and where he now receives the services of Coffee County's Homebound Program.

In addition to these services, Zion Chapel's head basketball coach, Tom Walker, volunteers his preparation time every day to help with Justin's physical therapy. Justin is pleased to have his very own coach, and I am encouraged to know that such personal dedication still exists within our ranks. (Justin is not even on the team!).

The entire faculty and student body of Zion Chapel School have been involved. Every class in the school has participated in at least one project for Justin. The seniors prepared an extra special Easter basket which he enjoyed very much. His class gave him a birthday party, along with a nice gift, two days before his surgery in April. These are only two examples of the thoughtfulness the school has shown. I have been teaching long enough to know who is behind such ingenuities!

I know how hard it is to fit any new activity into an already impossible schedule. I know how hard it is to give financial support to the special causes, regardless of the need. I know how hard it is to get my planning done, even with a preparation period. I know how hard it is to cook supper every night for my own family—much less prepare a special dish to take to someone else's house! Yet you have done all of these more than once. I am reminded that love is not just something you feel—it is something you do.

My personal thanks to Tina Jerigan, Justin's kindergarten teacher, who noticed that he was having trouble and who has done so much to help; to Ellen Pearson, the Homebound teacher, who is making him do "lots of hard stuff; to June Brown, my childhood friend who is the coordinator of the program; to Shirley Goodson, who takes Mr. McGruff to visit Justin; to Coach Walker for his excellent example.

for the rest of us; to all the other staff and faculty, for all you have done for Justin, Tobie, Chris and B. Also, I would like to thank Wynne Richards, who loves Justin so much and takes such good care of him, and whose home has become an extension of the school for these extra activities.

Play (Lowry) Logan
Chapter 1 Reading
Susan Moore School
County

Dear Editor:

I have been in office for six months and it has been a very busy time for me. I have enjoyed it very much and I am proud to say the people of Elba have been very cooperative. We are all aware that it takes the cooperation of all citizens to carry on the operation of our City.

Upon being elected, I promised the people I would operate the City to the best of my ability, be honest and treat everyone equally. So far, I can truly say I have done this.

One of the most difficult things that I have had to accomplish is the enforcement of business licenses and building permits. So many property owners seem to think that they should not have to comply with the building ordinance or permit requirements. The ordinances were adopted long before I was elected and I intend to enforce them. The City must have revenue and I believe it can be collected from these ordinances, rather than having to raise new taxes.

The City of Elba has a good group of employees and I am proud to be one of them.

Sincerely,

Fred W. Moore
Mayor

Dear Editor:

Pete and I would like to publicly express our gratitude to the emergency staff of Elba General Hospital and to the Elba Rescue Squad.

We thank each of you for your knowledge and immediate service to our dear one in his time of need.

We want to say a very special thank you to Dr. Benevise, Mrs. Henderson, Bill Brueckner, Mark Davis, and the couple in the waiting room.

Sincerely,

Dixie H. Dorsey
1444 Cherokee Lane
Elba, AL 36323

News From Our Early Files

TEN YEARS AGO

APRIL 3, 1979

***Rachelle Bozeman was crowned Miss Elba in activities last Thursday night. First runner-up was Debbie Waldon, and second runner-up was Brenda Lee.

***Black & Gold Review: The Elba High School French Club attended the annual convention at the University of Alabama and taking part in group competition were Tommy Tatom, Scott English, Steve Cowart, the Exhibit group included Scott English, Ken Knight, Paul Cox, Mark Bowers, Philip Brown.

TWENTY YEARS AGO

MAY 1, 1969

***Janet Murphree has been tapped for membership in Mortar Board, the scholastic and leadership honorary for senior women at Auburn University.

Elba cheerleaders for the coming year: Judy Vaughan, Pat Taylor, Jackie Smart, Marie Vaughan, Vickie Vaughan, Debbie Lindsey.

***Mr. and Mrs. James K. Hayes of New Brockton announce the engagement of their daughter Sarah Elizabeth (Lib) to Ronald Lyle Burns, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Erwin Burns of New Brockton. The wedding will be an event of June 13 at New Brockton Baptist Church.

THIRTY YEARS AGO

APRIL 30, 1959

Four 12-year-old boys from Elba demonstrate at the Dorsey Trailers convention in Pensacola how to assemble a Dorsey "Champion" truck body in six-and-a-half minutes. The boys are Eddie Mason, Terry Fick, Mark Meredith, and Mike Norman.

***Mr. and Mrs. Odell Cotney of Opp announce the engagement of their daughter Lyndell Patricia to Dan Jasper Presley, son of Mrs. Clive V. Presley Sr. and the late Mr. Presley. The wedding will take place June 2 at Opp Church of Christ.

FORTY YEARS AGO

MAY 5, 1949

***New officers for the girls dormitories at Troy State Teachers College include Helen Allday, Elba, who is president.

***New Brockton News: Mrs. Bill Sawyer and daughter Suzanne of Miami are visiting Mr. and Mrs. Wade H. Sawyer and other relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. Collis Martin, Mrs. Jake Mann, Eric Mann, and Miss Elizabeth Martin were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Bean Wilks Tuesday.

***Cpl. T.W. Britt of Elba, Rt. 4, is among the students now attending a Master Gunners course now underway at Ft. Bliss.

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Kris Scarborough



FOUR RETIRES AT DORSEY TRAILERS recently received gold watches from General Manager Russell Cash. (Pictured, l-r are): Lushers Kyles - 23 years; J.O. Spicer - 42 years; Cash; N.D. Campbell - 23 years; and J.G. Sanson - 32 years.

Elba Police Report

The Elba Police Department reported another active week with a total of 4 arrests (violation of prohibition law, criminal trespass, assault-3rd degree and escape-2nd degree) and 20 traffic citations (drivers license required-3, driving under the influence-3, expired tag, speeding-8, running red light, driving on wrong side of road, no drivers license-2 and improper lights).

Following are daily activity reports:

TUESDAY, APRIL 25

Activity included a wreck on Claxton St. (12:58 p.m.) and a wreck on 87S. (8:56 p.m.).

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26

Activity included a complaint involving an assault (2:37 a.m.), a wreck on County Rd. 21 (6:07 a.m.), a wreck at Claxton Ave. (8:12 a.m.), a complaint of harassment on Stoumdene St. (8:58 a.m.), a wreck involving a car and a bike on Claxton (3:56 p.m.) and a complaint of a suspicious rabbit in Kennedy Estates (8:39 p.m.).

THURSDAY, APRIL 27

Activity included a possible fight behind the high school (9:01 p.m.).

DEATH NOTICES

JACK WINGARD
Mr. Jack Wingard, age 74, of Houston, Missouri, died April 27, 1989, at Houston Memorial Hospital.

Funeral services were held April 30, at 2 p.m. at Hayes Funeral Home Chapel, with Ministers Marcell Vandevender and Larry Powell officiating. Burial followed in Rhodes Cemetery in Kingston with Hayes directing.

Survivors include two sons: Wendell Wingard, Ellis Prairie, Mo.; Lamar Wingard, Houston, Mo.; five daughters: Betty Marsh, Melbourne, Fla.; Margie Sheffield, Rockledge, Fla.; Rhonda Cook, Melbourne, Fla.; Rena Combs, Austin, Tex.; Sue Frisk, Houston, Tex.; two brothers: Clifton Wingard, Kingston; Thomas Wingard, Vidalia, Ga.; four sisters: Louise Tanner, Buna, Wright, both of Elba; Beulah Vandevender and Gertrude Hicks, both of Mobile; 19 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren.

BESSIE PONCEY
Mrs. Bessie Henderson Poncey, 90, passed away April 27, 1989, in the Wiregrass Hospital, Geneva, Ala. She was a resident of Samson.

Funeral services were held May 2, at 3 p.m. from the Pleasant Valley Missionary Baptist Church, Coffee Springs, with Rev. W.M. Miggins officiating. Interment was in Pleasant Valley Cemetery, Hammond Funeral Home directing.

Survivors include one daughter: Ms. Wilma Doris Poncey Reynolds, Samson; one son-in-law, James Reynolds, Samson; four grandchildren; 19 great-grandchildren.

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ELBA MINISTERIAL ASSN. - Thurs 8 a.m. - Ye Old Hickory Pl.
JAYCEES - 1st & 3rd Thurs - 7 p.m.
Boys Den Restaurant
CITY COUNCIL - 2nd & 4th Mon - 5 p.m.
LIONS CLUB - 2nd & 4th Tues - 6:30 p.m. - Evergreen Den Room
ELBA CITY SCHOOL BOARD - 1st Thurs 5 p.m. - Soc. Office
AMERICAN LEGION - 1st Thurs - 7:30 p.m. - Legion Hall, Troy Hwy.
BOY SCOUTS - Mon 7 p.m. - Over old City Hall
RESCUE SQUAD - 2nd & 4th Tues - 7 p.m. - Library
WATER & ELECTRIC - 2nd Tues - 5 p.m. - City Hall
MASSON LODGE 178 - 1st Sat & 3rd Mon - 7 p.m.
AA - Wed. 8 p.m. & Sun 6 p.m. - Old City Hall
BAND BOOSTERS - 1st Mon - 7 p.m. - Band Room
VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER - Tues, Thurs 8:00 - 2:30. 897-2928
NEW AL-ANON - Wed 8 p.m. - Sr. Citizens Center
NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS - 5-6 Sundays, Sr. Citizens Center
COFFEE COUNTY COGNITION - ERS ASSN. - 3rd Sat - 3 p.m. - Club House
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